

**VOLUNTEER LOUISIANA COMMISSION
PROVISIONAL NOTES**

WEDNESDAY, June 17, 2015

10:00 AM – 2:00 PM

STATE LIBRARY OF LOUISIANA
701 NORTH FOURTH STREET
BATON ROUGE, LA 70804

Commissioners Attending:

Voting Members

William Stoudt (Chair)
Karen Moss Barnes (Secretary)
Monica Bradsher
Julie Cherry
Dr. Leroy Davis
Dr. Jennifer Falls
Gene Grabbe
BJ Gallent
Kathy Lenard
Mike Manning
Teresa Micheels
Dena Christy

Ex-Officio Members

Vickie Schenk

Staff Attending:

Judd Jeansonne
Jawonna Mason
Stephanie Trahan

Commissioner Absent:

Voting Members

Jenny Korner (Vice-Chair)
Sharon Weston Broome
David Conner
Shannon Dietz
Chris Gorman
Robert Lancon
Fabian Tucker

Staff Absent:

Nicholas Auck

CALL TO ORDER:

The meeting was called to Order by Mr. William Stoudt, who then called on Ms. Karen Moss-Barnes to call the Roll of the Commission and quorum was reached. The Chair Began by discussing the resignation on one Commissioner and asked for Ms. Stephanie to report on two Commissioners who are experiencing poor health. Ms. Fabian Tucker has both Pinkeye and Poison Ivy. Mr. David Conner is recovering from a heart attack two months ago, but has now been diagnosed with a brain tumor and leukemia. Dr. Davis offered to take any cards and care packages collected. The Chair also offered condolences to Mr. Judd Jeansonne on the loss of his brother and Ms. Stephanie Trahan who reinjured her collarbone.

APPROVAL OF MINUTES:

Minutes from the December and March meetings of the Commission were reviewed and adopted with the correction of Ms. Dena Christy's name includes an 'h'.

CHAIR'S REPORT:

The Chair commented on the Mayor's Day 2015 being an overwhelming success, as well as the 19 Leaders Against Litter events and the Louisiana Legislative Challenge which the Senate once again won, but not by as much as years passed. Mr. Stoudt also recognized Mr. Mike Manning for hosting the National VOAD conference in New Orleans in May. Also, New Orleans Area Habitat for Humanity held a 10 at 10 event, building 10 houses in 10 days celebrating the 10th Anniversary of Hurricane Katrina. Future events will include the Katrina at 10 events in August. Ms. Julie Cherry pointed out that the Louisiana Education and Television board meeting would be hosting a video project as part of Katrina at 10 years. Katrina10.org is the website to volunteer or register an event.

The Chair also reminded Commissioners that they need to turn in the Ethics training each calendar year.

The Chair reviewed the competitive AmeriCorps awards; four of the six proposals submitted to CNCS were awarded for a total of \$1.7 million in funding.

TREASURER'S REPORT:

Ms. Jawonna Mason reviewed the Treasurer's Report which was approved as presented.

EXECUTIVE COMMITTEE MEETING:

William Stoudt reported on the Executive Committee meeting to consider the cuts to Volunteer Louisiana State Fund Budget. Absent additional grant funding, the committee recommended the elimination of the Director of Volunteer Outreach on September 30, 2015. The Commission discussed various options of contracting or VISTA placement for the Disaster piece of the Volunteer Outreach job description. It was moved and seconded to endorse the recommendation of the Executive Committee.

EXECUTIVE DIRECTOR'S REPORT:

The Executive Director discussed the spending down of funds and not having funds withdrawn from one budget category and recoded to another spending category just before the end of funding. Also, the Volunteer Study negotiations have started with a completion date of June 30. Staff is working on the Strategic Plan recommendations that will be presented to the committee for their review prior to the full Commission. Trumpet has been working on the 2015 billboard campaign. Commission nominations have been sent to the Governor to replace those that are departing. Those departing included Ms. Julie Cherry, Ms. Teresa Michaels, Ms. Dena Christy, Dr. Leroy Davis, and Mr. Mike Manning and were recognized for six years of service on the Commission.

CHAIR REPORT:

The Chair announced that Ms. Ann Masden has resigned from the Commission and vacated the office of Treasurer. He then asked for volunteers to serve the remainder of the year. Mr. Gene Grabbe was elected unanimously.

AMERICORPS FUNDING RECOMMENDATIONS:

The Chair reviewed the proposal of the AmeriCorps Committee for funding of AmeriCorps Programs through the State Competitive process. The Committee recommended to fund all of the Continuation Applications except Catholic Charities (five programs funded include Boys & Girls Clubs of NCLA, Communities in Schools, LA Delta Service Corps, Fuller Center NW, and Up2US); Funding five Re-compete Programs: Boys & Girls Clubs of GBR, SEE West Monroe, ShreveCorps, UL Lafayette and Impact Lake Charles; and one new application: Boys & Girls Club of Southeast Louisiana. Ms. Monica Bradsher moved the adoption of the Committee's recommendation, it was seconded and the Chair called for discussion. Mr. William Stoudt and Mr. Mike Manning announced that they would abstain from the vote due to their connection with funded AmeriCorps programs. A vote was called and the motion passed with nine Yeas, no Nays and two Abstentions.

CALENDAR REVIEW:

The upcoming calendar events were reviewed.

ADJOURNMENT

With no further business to discuss, Mr. Stoudt declared the meeting adjourned at 11:45 pm.